REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Title of Publication:	story.txt
Other Known Title:	Not Stated
Format:	Computer Text File Printout
Director/Author:	Not Stated
Producer/Publisher:	Not Stated
Country of Origin:	Not Stated
Language:	English
Applicant:	Comptroller of Customs
Distributor:	Not Applicable
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive Note:	Not Applicable
Display Conditions:	Not Applicable
Date of entry in Register:	04 September 2007
Date of direction to issue a label:	Not Applicable
OFLC No:	701788
Excisions:	Not Applicable

Reasons for excisions:

Not Applicable

Summary of reasons for classification:

The computer text file printout *story.txt* is classified as: Objectionable.

The printout promotes and supports the exploitation of children, or young persons, or both, for sexual purposes. It contains a series of internet newsgroup entries posted by members of a newsgroup. A woman describes activity she engaged in with her stepfather as a child, using language that has a salacious tone. She argues that the sexual relationship she had with her stepfather was empowering and beneficial to her and generalises her own experience to all girls. Other entries on the newsgroup condone a similar view of girls in relation to sex.

The classification of this publication interferes with the freedom of expression, as set out in section 14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. This outcome is consistent, however, with Parliament's intention that publications falling under section 3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 are deemed to be objectionable. The classification is also a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression that reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to limit the availability of publications that promote and support the exploitation of children or young persons for sexual purposes.